

course refuted by the fact that we voted go to war. We voted for enhanced law enforcement powers.

But then comes the biggest lie of all. What Mr. Rove appears to be trying to do is to perpetuate one of the most damaging acts of dishonesty we have seen from a President of the United States, the argument that part of the reason for invading Iraq was to defend ourselves against 9/11. That is, of course, what is implicit in Mr. Rove's speech. He would put together the attack of 9/11, and what we did in Iraq.

But, the fact is now very clear, the Iraqi regime, despicable as it was, was not involved in the murders of 9/11. The war in Iraq was not based on an effort to deal with 9/11. That was the war in Afghanistan, which we supported.

So what you have from Mr. Rove, I would say in conclusion, Mr. Speaker, is a couple of specific lies in pursuit of a very big one, a big one that tries to get America to forget how dishonestly this administration argued for the war in Iraq.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 38 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. RADANOVICH) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Lord God, the Book of Proverbs tells us of Your care and concern for leaders: "Discretion will watch over you. Understanding will guard you."

Lord, without discretion, power and position may be wasted and personal virtues produce nothing.

As a special aspect of prudence, discretion enlightens a person to one's true motives in acting and inspires multiple means to achieve one's goal.

So fill Members of the House of Representatives with discretion this week.

May they be discreet in what they say and discreet in what they do. Since they have such an impact on so many people, they need to be mindful that indiscreet thoughts boomerang their sting when they come to light in word or deed.

In Your sight, O Lord, discretion is the better part of valor now and always.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the

last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. FRANK) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

PATRIOTIC SPIRIT

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, it was my great pleasure this weekend to attend a wonderful patriotic program at Calvary Baptist Church in Winston-Salem entitled, "Our Flag Was Still There." Interspersed with music and narration were reminders of times our country has been challenged and brave Americans have risen to the challenge.

As we approach the Fourth of July and all the celebrations attendant to it, it was gratifying to see a major church in our area doing its part to remind us of our heritage and inspire people to pray for our country. I quote Pastor Al Gilbert: "The flag is the symbol that has much standing behind it. Today there are thousands of men and women wearing this flag on their sleeve and standing in harm's way. We must stand behind them as they stand for what is behind the flag. We remember those who made this a great Nation and we invite you to join us in praying for the needs of our country today."

Associate Pastor Larry White: "You are exercising your right to celebrate and worship freely in our great country. In light of the threat to the safety and peace our country has faced in recent years and our current world condition, we especially want to honor the men and women who sacrifice that we may be sustained. We salute you and your commitment to our country."

I am grateful to all of the folks at Calvary, and all the other churches in our country that will have similar programs this weekend, for their patriotic spirit and their prayers.

EXTENDING CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY OF OSCAR BROWN, JR.

(Mr. DAVIS of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor today to extend condolences to the family of a dear friend of mine and a friend of all people who love culture, art, music, literature.

Oscar Brown, Jr., died a few days ago, and of course, Oscar was a noted enter-

tainer who always stayed close to his roots. Some of his great pieces were things like Mr. Kicks and, of course, his great song about the snake.

I simply say to his wife Jean Pace, to their children, especially his daughter Maggie who is a great entertainer in her own right, that we appreciated having the opportunity to know and benefit from Oscar's great works and wish you all much happiness as you continue to live out his legacy.

UNOCAL

(Mr. NEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to request that the Bush administration review, under the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States, the Chinese National Offshore Oil Corporation's bid to purchase Unocal.

Mr. Speaker, at a time of rising prices on global oil supplies, ready access to energy resources is vital to our economic security. It is imperative that the United States protect its access to these energy resources in order to protect our economy and our national security.

This committee, chaired by Treasury Secretary Snow, may block this foreign acquisition of an American corporation if it finds that there is evidence that the Chinese National Offshore Oil Corporation might take action that threatens our national security.

Such a review is not unprecedented. Mr. Speaker, in 2003, the committee reviewed a bid by Hong Kong-based Hutchinson Whampoa to purchase Global Crossing, and earlier this year the committee reviewed the sale of IBM's personal computer business to the Chinese firm, the Lenovo Group.

Should the committee determine that this acquisition threatens the national security of the United States, it could ultimately issue a suspension or a denial.

Whether the Chinese National Offshore Oil Corporation's actions, through the takeover of Unocal, will threaten our national security is not yet known; however, they justify a thorough review.

CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS LONGHORNS ON WINNING THE 2005 COLLEGE WORLD SERIES

(Mr. SMITH of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to congratulate the Nation's 2005 College World Series champions, the University of Texas Longhorns.

This is an amazing sixth national title for the Longhorns. It also represents a record 32nd trip to the College World Series.

The Longhorns' win caps off another impressive season of University of Texas baseball. The team had a combined 51–16 record in the regular season and the playoffs, setting up another opportunity to compete for the national championship.

Under the guidance of Coach Augie Garrido, the Longhorns went undefeated in their five games of the series, pulling off a 6–2 victory over the Florida Gators in the final match-up on Sunday.

Credit for this outstanding victory is due to the entire Longhorns' baseball team, coaching staff, and the athletic department at the University of Texas.

Special recognition for the win is also owed to the most outstanding player of the series, third baseman David Maroul. His six hits and six runs were a major factor in the Longhorns' championship win.

Mr. Speaker, congratulations go to Coach Garrido and all the Longhorn players on their great victory.

GUANTANAMO PROTECTS AMERICAN FAMILIES

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, I was grateful to join a 16 member delegation led by the gentleman from California (Mr. HUNTER), the Committee on Armed Services chairman, to view the detention facilities at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

In the extensive briefings by Brigadier General Jay Hood with representatives of JAG, Naval medicine, the FBI, and interrogators, I am convinced we have patriotic professionals conducting a humane mission to protect American families in the war on terrorism. The detainees' meal was as good as any I had in my 31 years of Army Guard service, and I can see why the prisoners this year gained 5 pounds over last year.

I urge all of my colleagues to visit the base to learn firsthand of the hard-core killers who are detained as interrogation proceeds to secure intelligence on terrorist cells. Not a single life has been lost at Guantanamo, but thousands of lives have been saved in the Middle East, Europe and America because of information which enables terrorists to be arrested before they murder at random.

In conclusion, God bless our troops and we will never forget September 11.

GITMO

(Mrs. BLACKBURN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, I too just returned from a bipartisan delegation to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba in order to review the procedures that are

used in handling and questioning the enemy combatants we have detained there.

After hearing months of criticism from the left and hearing our military men and women compared to Nazis and Guantanamo described as a gulag, I was glad for the opportunity to see the facility myself.

Do my colleagues know what I found? I found Guantanamo to be a well-run, secure facility that is essential in our fight in protecting America from terrorism.

For weeks and months, we have been told that the place was violating virtually every standard of decency in the free world. Well, these detainees do get 3 meals a day. They are allowed to worship. They are receiving health care.

I hope that the Democrats who know that to be true, who were with us, who viewed all the work at Guantanamo, will take a stand and tell the truth about Guantanamo and the wonderful men and women in our military who are serving there, working to keep America safe.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL HOME- OWNERSHIP MONTH AND THE IM- PORTANCE OF HOMEOWNERSHIP IN THE UNITED STATES

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 312) recognizing National Homeownership Month and the importance of homeownership in the United States.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 312

Whereas the President of the United States has issued a proclamation designating the month of June 2005 as National Homeownership Month;

Whereas the national homeownership rate in the United States has reached a record high of 69.1 percent and more than half of all minority families are homeowners;

Whereas the people of the United States are one of the best-housed populations in the world;

Whereas owning a home is a fundamental part of the American dream and is the largest personal investment many families will ever make;

Whereas homeownership provides economic security for homeowners by aiding them in building wealth over time and strengthens communities through a greater stake among homeowners in local schools, civic organizations, and churches;

Whereas improving homeownership opportunities requires the commitment and co-operation of the private, public, and non-

profit sectors, including the Federal Government and State and local governments; and

Whereas the current laws of the United States, such as the American Dream Down-payment Act, encourage homeownership and should continue to do so in the future: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) fully supports the goals and ideals of National Homeownership Month; and

(2) recognizes the importance of homeownership in building strong communities and families.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. NEY) and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. FRANK) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. NEY).

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 312 which recognizes National Homeownership Month and the importance of homeownership in the United States. It is offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. GARY G. MILLER), my colleague and friend, who could not be here this moment to carry it. He has done a lot of great work on it.

It has very good sponsors, also the gentleman from Ohio (Chairman OXLEY); the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. FRANK), our ranking member; of course myself and the gentleman from California (Ms. WATERS); the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. HARRIS) and other supporters. This resolution is a testament to the benefits of a strong and robust housing market in this country.

A home is more than just the symbol of the American dream. It is the backbone of our American way of life.

Over the past 3 years, the housing market has driven the national economy as Americans bought and refinanced homes in record numbers. Many regions were spared the worst of the recent recession due to the strength of some local housing markets.

Today, the housing sector directly accounts for about 14 percent of the country's total gross domestic product. Building a home involves multiple segments of our economy, including builders, bankers, mortgage lenders, realtors and numerous other people that are involved in this whole process.

June is National Homeownership Month, and so many of our partners celebrate this because in America, every citizen, regardless of race, creed, color or place of birth, has the opportunity and should have the opportunity to own a home of their own.

Homeownership creates community stakeholders who tend to be active in charities, churches, and neighborhood activities. Homeownership inspires civic responsibility, and homeowners are more likely to vote and get involved with local issues. Families owning a home offer children a stable living environment, and in many cases it influences their personal development